

Washington, DC –Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján joined 320 of his colleagues in the House of Representatives in voting for legislation that will encourage Americans to give their time and efforts to help rebuild our communities. The legislation promotes service and volunteerism by building on successful programs such as AmeriCorps and establishing new programs such as Veterans Corp. The Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education (GIVE) Act, H.R. 1388 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 321 to 105. The Senate is considering similar legislation.

“During times of crisis and economic hardship, Americans have always joined together to overcome obstacles,” said Rep. Luján. “The GIVE Act will provide Americans with the tools to get our country back on track by working in their communities. Americans of all ages have always responded to the call of service in times of crisis, and this legislation helps Americans to respond to this call by creating new opportunities to serve.”

According to the Committee on Education and Labor, the GIVE Act would more than triple the number of volunteers throughout the country, from 75,000 to 250,000, and increase the education reward they receive to \$5,350 for next year. The education award is designed to keep up with rising college costs.

For more information, [click here](#).